

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method to render an optically readable media unreadable, comprising providing an inhibit layer disposed over at least a portion of the optically readable media, the inhibit layer comprising a first substance that slows the passage of a second substance through the inhibit layer while the first substance is present in the inhibit layer, where the second substance takes part in a process that causes the optically readable media to become unreadable; and making the optically readable media unreadable in response to a loss of the first substance from the inhibit layer.

2. An optically readable media that comprises means for rendering said optically readable media unreadable and further comprising an inhibit layer that comprises a first substance that slows the passage of a second substance through said inhibit layer while said first substance is present in said inhibit layer, where said second substance is involved in a chemical reaction that results in said optically readable media becoming unreadable.

3. A method for making an optically readable media unreadable, comprising steps of:

providing the media having a readout surface layer comprising features that encode information;

forming over the surface layer a reactive layer that inhibits a readout device from reading the information; and

forming over the reactive layer a reaction inhibiting layer comprising a volatile

substance that inhibits transport through the reaction inhibiting layer until the volatile substance is lost to the environment.

4. A method as in claim 3, wherein the reactive layer is comprised of a solvent and a dye.

5. A method as in claim 4, wherein the solvent is comprised of 1,5-dimethyl-2-pyrrolidinone (DMP).

6. A method as in claim 4, wherein the solvent is comprised of N-methylpyrrolidinone (NMP).

7. A method as in claim 3, wherein the volatile substance of the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of a solvent.

8. A method as in claim 7, wherein the solvent is comprised of glycerol.

9. A method as in claim 3, wherein the volatile substance of the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of water.

10. A method as in claim 3, wherein the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of polysiloxane.

11. A limited play optically readable media, comprising:

a readout surface layer comprising features that encode information;

disposed over the surface layer, a reactive layer that inhibits a readout device from

reading the information; and

disposed over the reactive layer, a reaction inhibiting layer comprising a volatile substance that inhibits transport through the reaction inhibiting layer until the volatile substance is lost to the environment.

12. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 11, wherein the reactive layer is comprised of a solvent and a dye.

13. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 11, wherein the solvent is comprised of 1,5-dimethyl-2-pyrrolidinone.

14. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 11, wherein the volatile substance of the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of a solvent.

15. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 14, wherein the solvent is comprised of glycerol.

16. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 14, wherein the solvent is comprised of 1,5-dimethyl-2-pyrrolidinone (DMP).

17. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 11, wherein the volatile substance of the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of water.

18. A limited play optically readable media as in claim 11, wherein the reaction inhibiting layer is comprised of polysiloxane.